17. At page 22, line 36 – page 23, line 4, please delete the entire paragraph and replace with the following:

Peptides comprising other hydrophobic domains of human elastin are expected to posses similar abilities to self-assemble and self-align, and are suitable MFUs in accordance with the present invention. For example, peptides comprising amino acid residues 19-160, 188-367 and 607-717 of the human elastin amino acid sequence set forth in Figure 1B (SEQ ID NO:1) are suitable MFUs.

18. At page 28, first full paragraph, please delete the entire paragraph and replace with the following:

Example 7. Expression of MFUs Based on Lamprin and Elastin/Lamprin

Via techniques similar to those described in Example 2 above, constructs consisting of the entire polypeptide sequence of lamprin were expressed. A chimeric construct consisting of a crosslinking domain of human elastin (exons 21 and 23) flanked on both sides by tandem repeat sequences from lamprin, (GGLGY; SEQ ID NO:8)6, also was expressed.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-15 and 17-26 without prejudice or disclaimer, amend claim 16 and add the following new claims:

16. (Amended) A cosmetic material comprising a polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence consisting of a portion of the amino acid sequence set forth in Figure 1B (SEQ ID NO:1) that comprises at least three beta-sheet/beta-turn structures and at least one amino acid residue that participates in cross-linking, and that is not a naturally occurring fibrous protein.

27. (New) The cosmetic material of claim 16, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group of amino acid sequences consisting of amino acid residues 374-499 of Figure 1B (SEQ ID NO:1), amino acid residues 19-160 of Figure 1B (SEQ ID NO:1), amino acid residues 188-367 of Figure 1B (SEQ ID NO:1), and amino acid residues 607-717 of Figure 1B (SEQ ID NO:1).

28. (New) The cosmetic material of claim 27, wherein the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide consists essentially of an amino acid sequence selected from the group

consisting of amino acid residues 374-499 of Figure 1B (SEQ ID NO:1), amino acid residues 19-160 of Figure 1B (SEQ ID NO:1), amino acid residues 188-367 of Figure 1B (SEQ ID NO:1), and amino acid residues 607-717 of Figure 1B (SEQ ID NO:1).

29. (New) The cosmetic material of claim 16, wherein the portion of the amino acid sequence set forth in Figure 1B (SEQ ID NO:1) is modified by the addition, deletion or substitution of from 1 to about 10 amino acid residues.

30. (New) The cosmetic material of claim 16, wherein the polypeptide comprises tandem repeats of a portion of the amino acid sequence set forth in Figure 1B (SEQ ID NO:1).

31. (New) The cosmetic material of 30, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequences set forth in Figure 4C (SEQ ID NO:2), Figure 5A (SEQ ID NO:9), Figure 5B (SEQ ID NO:10) and Figure 5C (SEQ ID NO:11).

32. (New) The cosmetic material of claim 30, wherein the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide consists essentially of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequences set forth in Figure 4C (SEQ ID NO:2), Figure 5A (SEQ ID NO:9), Figure 5B (SEQ ID NO:10) and Figure 5C (SEQ ID NO:11).

33. (New) The cosmetic material of claim 30, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of the amino acid sequences set forth in Figure 4C (SEQ ID NO:2), Figure 5A (SEQ ID NO:9), Figure 5B (SEQ ID NO:10) and Figure 5C (SEQ ID NO:11), wherein the sequence is modified by the addition, deletion or substitution of from 1 to about 10 amino acid residues.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Figures 5A-5C are added to the application.